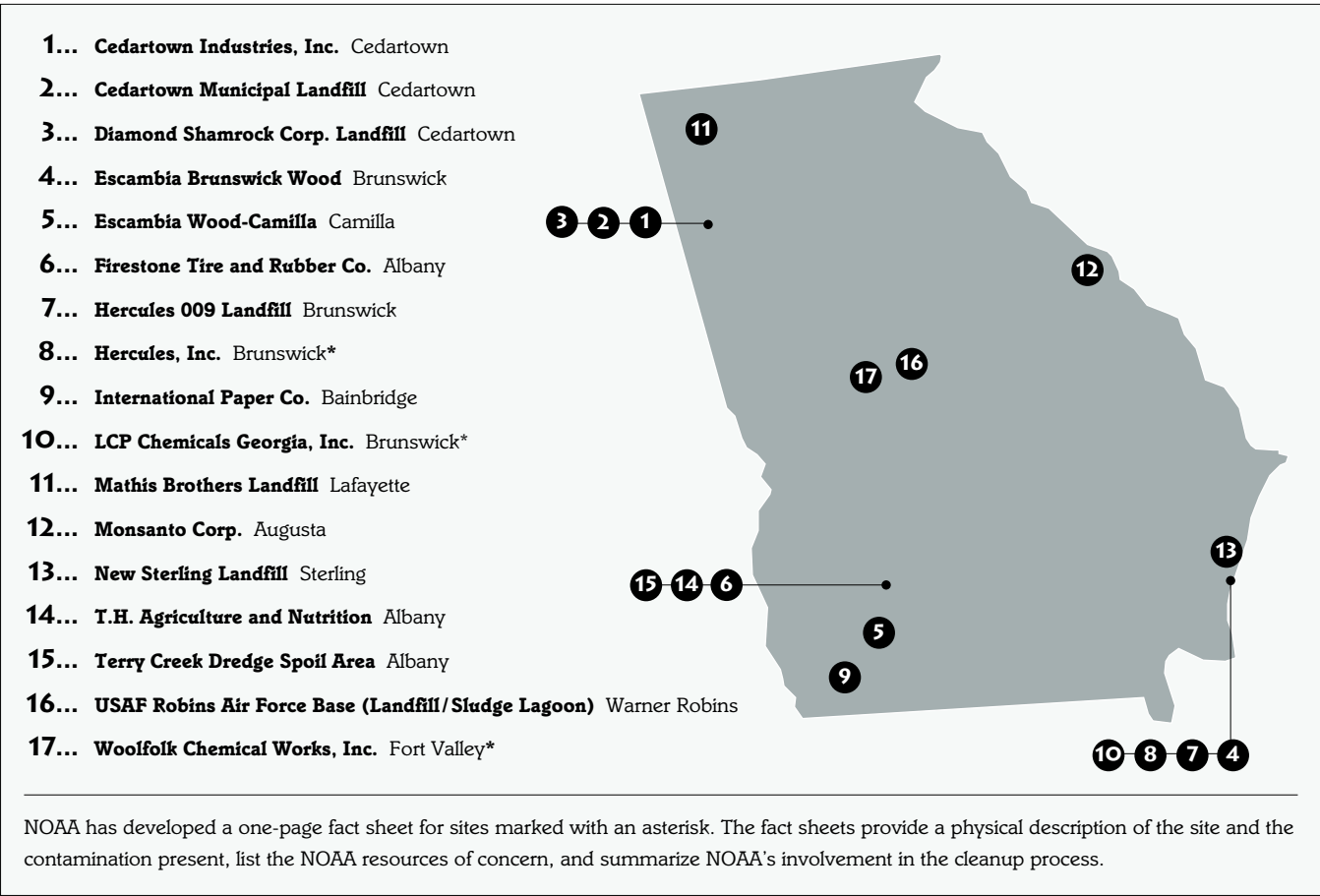


NOAA Coastal Resource Coordination Program

Georgia Sites

CRC PROGRAM MISSION...

NOAA acts on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce as a Federal trustee, under CERCLA and other laws, for natural resources in coastal and marine areas. NOAA's mandate is to protect and restore trust resources that are injured by Superfund site contaminants. NOAA fulfills its responsibilities through an effective network of Coastal Resource Coordinators (CRCs) placed in eight EPA regional offices, as well as an interdisciplinary support group located in Seattle. NOAA CRCs respond to local technical requirements by identifying risks to natural resources, recommending protective remedial measures, and designing projects to restore injured resources and habitats in cooperation with the U.S. EPA, the State of Georgia, and other trustee agencies. Our goal is to ensure that future generations can enjoy the benefit of healthy coastal ecosystems, abundant fishery stocks, and robust populations of marine mammals.



NOAA TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITY IN GEORGIA...

NOAA trust species in Georgia include anadromous and catadromous fish species such as Atlantic sturgeon, short-nose sturgeon (endangered), blueback herring, American shad, American eel, and striped bass. Also, marine and

estuarine species such as Atlantic menhaden, spotted sea trout (important game fish), summer flounder, southern flounder, and spanish mackerel. Invertebrate species include blue crab, eastern oyster, grass shrimp, brown shrimp, and pink shrimp and white shrimp (important commercial fisheries). Other trust species include the federally listed threatened loggerhead turtle, the federally listed endangered Kemp's ridley turtle, and the bottlenose dolphin.

NOAA CRCs AND THE SITE CLEANUP PROCESS...

NOAA CRCs provide technical expertise to EPA on resources and ecological risk assessment, mitigative measures, and cleanup strategies to ensure protection of NOAA trust resources. Federal and state trustees' early involvement and coordination in the scoping of ecological risk assessments ensures that assessments and the entire remedial process adequately evaluate the risk to natural resources. Designing a cleanup that protects natural resources as well as human health is a cost-effective and efficient way to address the threat posed by coastal waste sites. Through CRC participation in the cleanup process, the government saves time and money by avoiding duplication of effort and litigation. Responsible parties benefit from an early resolution of natural resource damage liability. Best of all, environmental threats are addressed sooner, increasing the chances for effective protection, recovery and/or restoration of coastal and marine resources.

MILITARY SITES IN GEORGIA...

Georgia is dotted with 222 military installations and formerly used defense areas. Currently, 19 installations are addressed under Superfund (CERCLA) or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) programs. The nature of defense-related activities involves chemicals that are highly toxic and persistent in the environment. In Georgia, military-related contaminants of concern include VOCs, PCBs, PAHs, heavy metals, pesticides, and solvents. NOAA's input is needed now to ensure that cleanups are protective of coastal natural resources as well as human health. NOAA offers technical expertise and a neutral perspective that is valued by both the military and the local public.

AREAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN IN GEORGIA...

The NOAA CRC program works to protect and restore natural resources throughout Georgia, however the Brunswick area has been a special concern for NOAA. The area provides nursery and adult habitat to support important commercial fisheries as well as sea turtle and marine mammal populations. NOAA participated in the EPA/state-sponsored Brunswick Initiative which evaluated the level of contaminants in water, sediments, and soils in the Brunswick area. There are several Superfund sites in the area where NOAA, in coordination with EPA Region 4 has been involved. The LCP Chemical site is located adjacent to 500 acres of marsh next to the Turtle River. This wetland and supporting creek system received discharges of high levels of PCBs and mercury while the facility was in operation. NOAA, in coordination with EPA Region 4, has planned and conducted studies on the effects of PCBs and mercury on reproduction in resident fish species. Reports of the result of this study will be documented in a report prepared for EPA. Other sites of concern to NOAA in the Brunswick area are the Terry Creek Dredge Disposal site and the former Escambia Wood Treating facility.

FYI...

For more information about NOAA's CRC program in Georgia, please contact:

Dr. Tom Dillon
Region 4 Coastal Resource Coordinator
Atlanta, Georgia
404/562-8639

Dr. Alyce Fritz
Chief, HAZMAT/Coastal Resource Coordination Branch
Seattle, Washington
206/526-6305